

UNIX/Linux platforms, SLO is installed as a daemon. For Windows-based platforms, SLO is installed as a regular application included in the Startup folder for every user.

[156] Fig. 5N shows the SLO Deployment and Installation window.

[157] In the Deployment and Installation window, all available network nodes are displayed in the left-hand Computer column. Nodes that are scheduled to have SLO installed will appear in the right-hand computer column.

[158] Select All allows the quick selection of all the nodes in the left-hand Computer column. Invert Selection is used when a long list of nodes is to be added for SLO installation. It is often easier to select the nodes in the left-hand Computer column that that aren't wanted and then press the Invert Selection button. Any selections that have been made will then be inverted. In other words, checked boxes will become unchecked and vice-versa.

[159] Deselect All removes all checkmarks from the nodes selected in the left-hand Computer column. The Add button, adds nodes that have been selected in the left-hand Computer column and adds them to the SLO installation list. Nodes in the right-hand window that have been selected for SLO installation in the network can be removed by being selected and then clicking on the Remove button. Once the desired nodes are selected, the Install button is pressed to start the SLO deployment process.

[160] Once nodes have been selected for SLO installation, the Remote SLO Setup window, shown in Fig. 5O, opens to allow specification of server general settings.

[161] Specification of server general settings defines the operating system, file-transfer and remote-execution mechanisms for each node. (Note: nodes are referred to as Remote Servers in this window.) Selecting different file-transfer and remote-execution mechanisms activates corresponding tabs which appear behind the General Settings tab. These new tabs can require separate configuration. Any changes that are made in the General Settings tab are reflected in the list of nodes in the left-hand Remote Server field.

[162] In the preferred embodiment, restrictions apply during this portion of the SLO setup. For example, DCOM is only available to Windows platforms. In some cases, selecting None for an operation mechanism can make sense. For example, if the corresponding files are already placed on a node (due to a previous attempt to install or because common drives are used), only remote execution is required.

[163] Figs. 5P-S illustrate specifying controls and parameters for file transfer and remote execution functions.

[164] Depending on the file-transfer and remote-execution mechanisms that were selected in previous steps, one or more new tabs will appear behind the General Settings tab.

The File-Transfer Settings for FTP tab allow specification of the FTP username and password (if applicable) and the FTP destination directory. By default the Anonymous username and the Home directory are set. The File-Transfer Settings for Shared Network Drives allows a Destination Folder to be selected, for example, when using a shared network drive to transfer files. This folder points to a drive (which is local to the node where SLO will be installed) that is shared along the network and mapped locally (at a central point). Common functionalities, such as mapping a network drive or creating a new folder are included. Note that file-transfer operations are carried out using the current user credentials, which means the current user must have enough rights to perform the operations.

[165] When launching a remote setup using the telnet protocol, a username and password are required. The Remote Execution Folder points to a local folder (on the remote server) where the setup files were moved during the file-transfer step. The final way to launch SLO setup is using DCOM. During the file-transfer step, all necessary files were sent to a local folder on the remote server. The complete path for this folder should be typed into the Local path in remote computer” field. DCOM allows remote processes to be executed using different user credentials. This parameter is selected in the DCOM User field.

[166] For a successful execution of the remote setup, the selected user must have rights to launch applications and access disk services through DCOM on the remote server. In terms of DCOM security, this means the user (or the group the user belongs to) must be listed in the “Default Access Permissions” (with Allow Access permission) and “Default Launch Permissions” (with “Allow Launch” permission). These lists can be seen and modified by executing the configuration application for DCOM and selecting the “Default Security” tab. For more information consult your DCOM documentation.

[167] Once the parameters are defined for each server, the installation process can begin. To start the installation, the user selects a predetermined icon or button on the user interface. Once the installation process is launched, SLO files are transferred and launched for each specified node. Results, errors and notifications can be viewed under the Results tab as the installation is in progress.

[168] Although the present invention has been discussed with respect to specific embodiments, these embodiments are merely illustrative, and not restrictive, of the invention. For example, although the invention is discussed primarily with reference to multi-tiered, or n-tiered, systems; it should be apparent that aspects of the invention can be used with any type of processing system even where the architecture does not include multiple tiers.

Aspects of the invention can also be applied to stand-alone systems, or systems that are not considered networks.

[169] Thus, the scope of the invention is to be determined solely by the appended claims.